

REMARKS

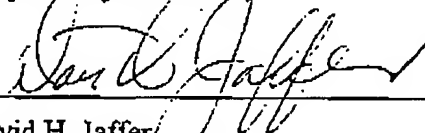
We wish to bring the following to the Examiner's attention:

1. The claims being examined are claims 23-44 and 63-68, not 23-44 and 63-69 as indicated in the Office Action.
2. The Office Action refers to claims 63-69 [sic] as "dependent upon a rejected base claim, but [they] would be allowable if rewritten in independent form." However, claims 63, 67, and 68 are independent claims.
3. The Examiner lists U.S. Patent 6,312,134 B1 as a reference cited by the Examiner. However, this patent was listed in Applicant's Information Disclosure Statement filed January 8, 2004.

Applicant requests that a revised first substantive Office Action be issued that addresses the allowability of independent claims 63, 67, and 68.

Date: May 5, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

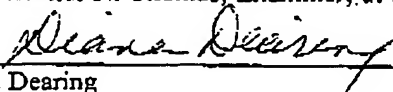


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CERTIFICATE OF FILING BY FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I, Diana Dearing, certify that this paper is being sent via facsimile transmission to MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner of Patents, Attention: Brandi N. Thomas, Examiner, at (571) 273-2341, on May 5, 2005.



Diana Dearing